

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Canceled)**
2. **(Currently Amended)** The endoscopic hood according to claim 4, wherein the hood main body is non-removably attached ~~in either a state that it can be attached/detached to/from~~ to the outer peripheral surface of the end portion ~~or a fixed state~~.
3. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~[[An]]~~ endoscopic hood according to claim 4, wherein the illumination light leading portion has a concave portion formed by notching an end portion of the protruding portion.
4. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~[[An]]~~ endoscopic hood of claim 10, comprising:
~~a cylindrical hood main body, the hood main body having an attachment portion which is attached in a state that it is fitted on an outer peripheral surface of an end portion of an insertion portion of an endoscope, and a protruding portion which protrudes from an end surface of the insertion portion of the endoscope in an axial direction of the insertion portion; and~~
~~[[an]] a second~~ illumination light leading portion which is provided on the protruding portion, the second illuminating light portion configured to pass the and passes therethrough illumination light rays with which a part of the ~~in an~~ observation visual field range of an object lens of the endoscope is illuminated, the second illumination light leading portion being arranged at such a position that a distance from an illumination lens ~~which emits~~ emitting the illumination light rays of the endoscope is shorter than a distance from the object lens ~~of the endoscope~~,
wherein the second illumination light leading portion has at least one hole formed on a circumferential wall surface of the protruding portion.
5. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~[[An]]~~ endoscopic hood according to claim 4, wherein the protruding portion is set at substantially the same angle as an outgoing radiation angle of the illumination light rays outgoing from the illumination lens.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The [[An]] endoscopic hood according to claim 3, wherein the protruding portion is molded at substantially the same angle as an outgoing radiation angle of the illumination light rays outgoing from the illumination lens.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The [[An]] endoscopic hood according to claim 4, wherein the protruding portion has an end portion molded into ~~such~~ a shape [[as]] such that the end portion is absent from the ~~it does not enter an observation visual field image of the~~ endoscope.

8. **(Canceled)**

9. **(Previously Presented)** The endoscopic hood according to claim 10, wherein the illumination light leading portion has a concave portion on the part of the protruding portion, the concave portion being formed by notching the end portion of an protruding portion.

10. **(Currently Amended)** An endoscopic hood comprising:
a cylindrical hood main body, ~~the hood main body~~ having an attachment portion ~~which is attached in a state that it is~~ fitted on an outer peripheral surface of an end portion of an insertion portion of an endoscope, and a protruding portion ~~which protrudes~~ protruding from an end surface of the insertion portion of the endoscope in an axial direction of the insertion portion; and
an illumination light leading portion ~~which is~~ provided on a part of the protruding portion positioned to block irradiation of illumination light to an observation visual field range of the endoscope, the illumination light leading portion being provided to pass ~~irradiate~~ illumination light to at least one part of the observation visual field range in which irradiation of the illumination light is blocked by the part of the protruding portion. [[;]]

wherein the illumination light leading portion has at least one hole formed on a circumferential wall surface of the part of the protruding portion.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The endoscopic hood according to claim 10, wherein the protruding portion is substantially cylindrical.

12. (Original) The endoscopic hood according the claim 11, wherein the substantially cylindrical protruding portion is formed continuously in a circumferential direction thereof.

13. (Original) The endoscopic hood according to claim 11, wherein the protruding portion is formed to have substantially the same inside diameter at an end portion and a base end portion.

14. (Original) The endoscopic hood according to claim 11, wherein the illumination light leading portion includes:

a bending portion formed on an end of the protruding portion so that the inner periphery surface of the protruding portion is bent outwardly from a center toward a diameter direction; and

a sloping surface set at substantially the same angle as the outgoing radiation angle of the illumination light outgoing from the illumination lens.

15. - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic hood according to claim 10, wherein the protruding portion is formed continuously and substantially along an outer peripheral surface of the end portion of the insertion portion of the endoscope.

19. (Canceled)

20. (New) The hood of claim 4, wherein the hood main body is removably attached to the outer peripheral surface of the end portion.